

"Piece By Piece -- Sorrow, Joy, And Heartburn!"

Text: Luke 24:17b,31a,32a.

"And are Sad," "And their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him," Heart
Beaten within us."

Scripture: Luke 24:113-32

We have now arrived at the very end of the journey which began on Ash Wednesday in Tyre and Sidon, and now culminates outside of Jerusalem. Jesus was crucified on Friday and it is now the first day of the week or Sunday as we know it. Jesus appeared to His followers on five different occasions during the day of His resurrection.

As we look at our scripture for this morning, we find that it is in the afternoon of that Sunday when Jesus had arisen from the tomb. Two of the disciples (vs 13), are walking along the road leading toward Emmaus which was located about 7 miles from Jerusalem. It is thought by some that this was a man and wife walking along and talking about what had happened ~~xxx~~ on Friday, and the events as they had been reported to them by the other disciples and the women. We're told that one of these people was named Cleopas, but the other remains unidentified at this point.

Now as they walked along and tried to reason all of this out, Jesus comes up to them and begins to walk along with them. But at this point they are prevented from recognizing that it is Him. Jesus asks them what they were so deeply engrossed in discussing as they walked along, and He remarks why they are sad. This was probably much like two of us being involved in a very serious discussion to be interrupted by another person, thus making necessary to explain the whole conversation in order for the other person to understand. We can well imagine their feelings at this point and it was probably a source of irritation, to explain all of this to someone who quite evidently was not aware of all that had taken place.

So Cleopas answers, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who has no knowledge of all that has taken place?" These two people were probably in no mood to go into long explanations about their friend Jesus. They were stunned by His death, and they were mourning Him. If we try to picture this in our minds, we can probably see that they were thinking that the authorities had

done something to dispose of the body, and they were just not that certain that they could believe what they were being told by their other friends. But regardless of their feelings they explained to this stranger all that had taken place, much like people rehash an ~~illness~~ accident, or an operation, or a death.

When they had completed their story Jesus takes them to task for their lack of knowledge concerning the prophecies about the Christ. But even when He went into a detailed explanation of scriptures, they were unable to recognize Him. So when they arrived at their destination, they evidently had enjoyed His companionship along the way, so they invited Him to spend the night at their place. It was late in the afternoon and they probably figured that since He was a stranger in the area, He would be needing a place to spend the night, and they were ~~thankful~~ grateful for His company. In all probability He was a learned individual and they could pass the evening discussing the issues of all of this. But strangely, as they were seated ~~at the table~~ and eating together, He took the bread and blessed it, and broke it, and as He gave it to them, they saw Him for the first time. And we read, "Their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him." (vs 31a). And it was at this point that they experienced a joy they had not felt for several days. And even though He disappeared from the room, they had this sense of elation and happiness, and they began to question each other as to the reaction they had in their hearts as they had walked along the Emmaus road with Him, and He had quoted the scriptures concerning Himself.

From ~~this~~ this portion of scripture we can deduce that there were among other things, three very distinct feelings that evolved. There was "Sorrow, Joy, and Heartburn.

Naturally they felt a sorrow for the loss of their beloved Friend Jesus. They missed Him deeply, and were shocked when all of a sudden the wonderful relationship with Him was broken and He was gone. He was dead, at the tender age of 33, and this brought on their deep sense of sorrow. But as we can see from this event, sorrow is merely the forerunner of the emotion of Joy. We mourn and weep for loved ones who have passed on. Yet, through the comfort of Al-

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 30, 1975

THE REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. EUGENE STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
MRS. CYNDIE SYBERT - YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR
RICKY VINROE, - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "COME YE FAITHFUL" HUGHES
"SHEEP MAY SAFELY GRAZE" BACH

THE SILENT PRAYER

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 167 "CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY"

*THE ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

MINISTER: NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND
BECOME THE FIRST FRUITS OF THEM THAT SLEPT.

PEOPLE: FOR SINCE BY MAN CAME DEATH, BY MAN ALSO
CAME THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD.

MINISTER: FOR THIS CORRUPTIBLE MUST PUT ON INCORRUPT-
TION, AND THIS MORTAL MUST PUT ON IMMORTALITY.

PEOPLE: O DEATH, WHERE IS THY STING? O GRAVE,
WHERE IS THY VICTORY?

*THE DOXOLOGY

THE SCRIPTURE LUKE 24: 1-32

THE YOUTH CHOIR ANTHEM: "COME YE CHILDREN SING TO JESUS"

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

MINISTER AND PEOPLE:

WE BELIEVE IN GOD, THE ONLY GOD, MAKER AND RULER OF
ALL THINGS, FATHER OF ALL MEN; THE SOURCE OF ALL
GOODNESS AND BEAUTY, ALL TRUTH AND LOVE.

WE BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, GOD IN THE FLESH, OUR
SAVIOR AND THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD. WE BELIEVE IN
THE HOLY SPIRIT, GOD PRESENT WITH US FOR GUIDANCE,
FOR COMFORT, AND FOR STRENGTH.

WE BELIEVE IN THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, IN THE LIFE
OF PRAYER AND LOVE, AND IN GRACE EQUAL TO EVERY NEED.

WE BELIEVE IN THE WORD OF GOD BOTH IN THE OLD AND
NEW TESTAMENTS AS THE SUFFICIENT RULE BOTH OF FAITH
AND OF PRACTICE.

WE BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH AS THE FELLOWSHIP FOR
WORSHIP AND FOR SERVICE FOR ALL WHO ARE UNITED
TO THE LIVING LORD.

WE BELIEVE IN THE COMING OF GOD'S KINGDOM UPON
EARTH AND THE FINAL TRIUMPH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
OVER EVIL.

WE BELIEVE IN EVERLASTING LIFE, SECURED FOR EACH
BELIEVER BY THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST.

WE BELIEVE THAT TO GOD BE ALL HONOR, ALL GLORY,
ALL DOMINION AND POWER, ALL PRAISE, AND ALL
SERVICE, BOTH NOW AND FOREVERMORE. AMEN.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

*THE EASTER PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY "THE GARDEN OF EASTER" RUSSELL
THE SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM "HE LIVES" ROGERS -

SOLO - RICHARD BARTON

THE EASTER SERMON "SORROW, JOY, AND HEARTBURN!"

THE SERMON PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*THE HYMN OF TRIUMPH No. 165 "THE DAY OF RESURRECTION!"

*THE BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

*THE POSTLUDE "HE LIVES" ROGERS

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE 40 LOVELY LILIES THAT ENHANCE THE ALTAR MAY BE
TAKEN AFTER THE SERVICE. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOURS
GIVEN TO A SHUT-IN, IT WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALVIN TAIT, ROBERT
STEWART, JAMES McClymonds, MIKE NAZARUK, GOTTLIEB
KRADEL.

DEACON AND MRS. MIKE NAZARUK WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. JUDY SNYDER
AND MRS. LINDA McMILLIN.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 270.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. KATHRYNE BANCROFT, SUE HOLLEFREUND.
JONI MARTE, MRS. TRESA NICHOLAS. - HOME & THANK COMG.

MON. - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING AT
THE CHURCH. APRIL 7

WED. - 7:30 - COUNCIL MEETING

THURS. - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE
HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

NAMES
ARE ON
LIST
62
WOMEN
TO HELP

OUT

"Piece B, Piece -- Sorrow, Joy, And Heartburn!"
Text: Luke 24:17b, 31a, 32a

"An are sad, and their eyes were opened and they
recognized Him, and did not our hearts burn within us

End journey/began Ash Wed Tyr & sid/culmin outsid Jer
Js ruci Friday, & 1st day wk Sun.

appear 5 diff times this day of Resurr
As look scrip vs 13 in aftern go 2 Emmaus 7 mi
xx poss man wife, 1 Cleopas other unknown
vs 15, Js cum 2 them they no know

resent interrump by stranger/irritask vs 18?
thot mayB authorits dispose body Js & explain
Js take 2 task 4 not know prophs bout Js
vs 28, 29, get late invite stay eat
vs 31, know Him break bred
vs 32, ask this of selves

C 3 things all this "SORROW, JOY AND HEARTBURN"
Sorrow 4 runner Joy/know this by deth loved 1's,
Joy overtake Sorrow by H Sp of G

Our Joy 2day shud B like cong, (illus preacher)
Js did all this & mor wen arose

1st time hist. deth no need fear/overcum & defeer
Now poss pass thru val shad deth & stand B4 G etern

This Js did resurr/shackles deth brok by Risen Lord
This why no cele L. Sup East./cross purps & East JO
2 folls suffer heartburn within

this no hartburn hyper-acidity, ulcer act up,
this hartburn cause by p~~ee~~sence Js Xp & his power
spirit blind Em. rd & warm by stranger tell prophs
(Illus boy & glowing hart)

This way is Js Xp. hart

He infuse mankind warmth from hart, & sav by glow ha
As read life/story Js Naz Bgin feel sorrow

Sorrow such 1 wud hav 2 die, Bcause it so unfair
But then meet Him at table & Joy Bcause recog
4 wat He is

& understand all this & harts burn strange
warmth Bcause He Lord & Our God

Can say victoriously as Job said long ago,

"I know that my Redeemer liveth, and will one day
stand upon the earth."

Thanks B 2 G 4 His inexpressable gift,

Shirley & Ralph Charles Link, Nancy Link, Dale with Lianne his wife, Lloyd Link with Karen his wife
 Jessica in front of Ralph C. Link
 Ethan and Alisha in front of R. Dale and Lianne Link (the eldest son & family)









Ralph C. Link
153 Keck Road
Sarver, Pa. 16055
(412) 352-1103

Born: April 9, 1929, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Married: December 15, 1951
Wife: Shirley Margaret Neill
Born: December 8, 1930, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Children: Ralph Dale Link, born May 11, 1955, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Lloyd Alan Link, born May 28, 1958, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nancy Lynn Link, born March 15, 1961, Butler, Pa.

SCHOOLING:

Graduated from Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 1947

Lay Ministry School, Penn West Conference of United
Church of Christ, September 1965 to May 1969

Commissioned Lay Minister June 1969

Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.,
September 1970

Graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary May 1974

Ordained to Christian Ministry March 10, 1974

PASTORATES:

As Lay Minister: short term, 1 month or less in
various churches 1965 to 1967

Emlenton Lamartine Charge of United Church of Christ
1967 to 1969

Short term in various churches 1970 until Seminary
entrance July 1970

July 1970 to December 1973 Student Pastor at Trinity
Charge, New Bloomfield, Duncannon, Pa., Penn Central
Conference, United Church of Christ

December 1973 to present, St. Paul's United Church of
Christ, Butler, Pa., Penn West Conference, United
Church of Christ

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

OF

Ralph C. Link

I am the youngest of five children. I was born just prior to the onset of the Depression. Our family was very poor. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was a very religious person who was searching for the Lord. During my childhood she did her best to teach me the things of the Lord. Later in life she came to a personal relationship with Him.

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church where salvation by grace alone was not preached nor taught. I knew all about Jesus, what He did, how He lived, His miracles, His death and resurrection, but I didn't know Him personally.

My life had many ups and downs and all the while I was attending church and striving with my good works to please God. At a very low point in my life when we were deeply in debt and my wife and three children were all ill, I came to the crossroads. I watched a Billy Graham Crusade on television from some distant city and the message he preached seemed to be directed right at me. I wrestled with making that commitment to Christ, but didn't. The next afternoon and evening at work on the 4 to 12 shift I came to the conclusion that I needed to make that commitment to Christ. It seemed like there was no other choice if life was to have any meaning. That night when I came home from work at 1:00 A.M., I laid face down on the living room floor and told God that I couldn't live my life in my own strength and I accepted the gift of salvation from my Savior Jesus Christ. My life has never been the same.

Through several meaningful circumstances I was called by God to serve Him in the Christian Ministry and to help spread that wonderful message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful and rewarding time it has been and I give Him all the praise for my salvation and the opportunity to serve Him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OF

Ralph C. Link

I believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired inerrant Word of God. I believe the Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and it is the final authority for the Christian faith and life.

I believe in one God, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ that He is true God and true man. I believe that He was born of the Virgin Mary, that He lived in sinless life, that He performed the miracles recorded in Scripture, that He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, that He bodily arose from the dead, that He ascended on high where He is at the right hand of Almighty God as our intercessor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and that He comes and indwells each believer at the time of conversion. I believe that He lives in each believer to lead, to instruct, and to convict so that a believer may live a more godly life.

I believe that through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and through His resurrection, this is the only ground for justification and salvation for all who receive Him. A Lord and Savior and to such as receive Him, they are born of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

I believe water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church but are not means of salvation.

I believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, for the believer to resurrection of life and joy with the Lord, for the unbeliever to resurrection of judgement and everlasting punishment.